

***INTERNATIONAL SECURITY / MIDDLE EAST UPDATE***  
***April 1 - 7, 2011***

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**1. [Investing in U.N. Critical to U.S., International Security](#) (04-07-2011)**

By MacKenzie C. Babb  
Staff Writer

Washington — Investing in the United Nations is critical to ensuring U.S. national security, says U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Susan Rice.

“When we meet our financial obligations to the U.N., we make Americans safer, save lives around the world, and share the burden of tackling common problems that threaten us all,” Rice said in prepared testimony for the House Foreign Affairs Committee April 7.

She also testified April 6 on U.S. budget and policy initiatives for the United Nations and other international organizations before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on State and Foreign Operations. The congressional committees are reviewing 2012 budget requests, including U.S. contributions to the United Nations and other international organizations within the U.N. system.

Rice said the United Nations delivers “real results for every American by advancing U.S. security through genuine burden-sharing,” which she said was more important than ever at a time when threats do not stop at national borders and when American troops remain in harm’s way.

The U.S. investment and leadership in the United Nations make the United States and the international community more secure in several ways, Rice added.

Rice highlighted U.N. efforts to prevent conflict, promote stability and keep nations from slipping into war. She said more than 120,000 military personnel, police and civilian peacekeepers are now deployed in 14 operations in places such as Haiti, Sudan and Liberia.

Rice said the United Nations also helps to combat the proliferation of nuclear weapons, and she applauded the Security Council for imposing the toughest sanctions to date on Iran and North Korea. She praised sanctions imposed against individuals and companies associated with terrorism, human rights abuses and cross-border crime.

The ambassador commended U.N. humanitarian and development agencies for often going “where nobody else will to provide desperately needed assistance,” such as food, water and medicine.

And she said U.N. political efforts “help promote universal values that Americans hold dear, including human rights, democracy and equality — whether it’s spotlighting abuses in places such as Iran, North Korea and Burma, or offering support to interim governments in Egypt and Tunisia.”

Rice said the United States continues to work within the United Nations not only to support its missions, but also to reform its day-to-day practices. She called on U.N. managers to enforce greater budget discipline, and she demanded a culture of openness and accountability for resources and results.

Work is being done to improve the protection of civilians in violent zones and to strengthen U.N. field work by providing reasonable, achievable mandates for peacekeeping missions through restructured administrative and logistical support systems, Rice added.

She said the United Nations’ recent response to the crisis in Libya “further reminds us of its value in an age of 21st-century challenges.” She praised the Security Council’s quick action to save lives at risk of mass slaughter, to authorize a no-fly zone, to impose strong sanctions on the Qadhafi regime and to suspend Libya from the Human Rights Council by consensus.

Rice underscored the importance of the United Nations in allowing the United States to share the costs and burdens of tackling global problems, and requested the continued support of Congress for U.N. efforts.

The United States has been the largest financial contributor to the United Nations since its creation in 1945, contributing about 22 percent of the organization’s annual budget.

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## **2. Joint Statement on U.S.-Turkey Consultations on Afghanistan (04-07-2011)**

Following is the text of a joint statement by the United States and Turkey on the U.S.-Turkey Consultations on Afghanistan.

On April 4, 2011 a high ranking Turkish interagency delegation led by Deputy Director General for South Asia and Turkish representative in the International Contact Group Burak Akçapar, visited Washington D.C. for the third round of consultations with the U.S. Government on Afghanistan since 2009.

Welcoming the delegation, U.S. Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan Ambassador Marc Grossman thanked Turkey for its important contributions in Afghanistan, both with a strong ISAF presence and a robust civilian assistance program. Referencing Secretary Clinton’s February 18 Asia Society speech, he highlighted that Turkey has a very important role to play in the “third surge”, which Secretary Clinton characterized as the diplomatic initiative to bring the Afghan conflict to an end and chart a new and more secure future for the region.

Akçapar confirmed Turkey's resolve to continue to contribute to better regional understanding. Turkey hosted the Istanbul "Summit for Friendship and Cooperation at the Heart of Asia" and the fifth Afghan-Pakistani-Turkish Summit in December 2010; it recently organized a successful joint military exercise between the Afghan and Pakistani armies, and it will host a second regional summit in the fall of 2011. Ambassador Grossman welcomed these initiatives.

The agenda of the consultations included a broad range of topics centered around the three "surges" – particularly the civilian and diplomatic. Turkish and American government representatives met with their counterparts to review ongoing projects, determine opportunities for strengthened cooperation, confluence and synergies on the ground, and discuss the strategic outline for the year ahead.

In concluding the meeting, SRAP Grossman noted with satisfaction the depth and strength of U.S. – Turkish cooperation on Afghanistan, as shown by the broad spectrum of current and prospective joint activities and the common strategic vision on the way forward. The two delegations agreed to follow up on a number of specific joint initiatives, including by continuing annual bilateral consultations, and by closely coordinating work in Kabul as well as in the framework of the UN, NATO, and the International Contact Group.

Akçapar expressed his gratitude and appreciation for the U.S. Government's invitation and reiterated Turkey's determination to continue to work towards a peaceful, secure and sovereign Afghanistan and the prosperity of the Afghan people – that is a critical element of forging a stable and prosperous South Asia.

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### **3. From Humble Beginnings, Qadhafi Offers a Study in Power (04-06-2011)**

By Jeff Baron  
Staff Writer

Washington — The Libyan government was corrupt, its leader out of touch with his people, and those who rose against him in Benghazi were young, idealistic and unknown.

The year was 1969, not 2011, and the leader of the coup was Muammar Qadhafi.

Historians who have studied Libya's longtime leader describe him as compelling and contradictory, remarkable for his rise and then for the approach he took to maintaining power for more than 41 years.

"He'll be a case study for many dictators of the future. They will look at him and say, 'How did he do it?'" said Mansour O. El-Kikhia, a Libyan-born professor at the University of Texas at San Antonio and author of Libya's Qaddafi: The Politics of Contradiction. "This is really a unique model of dictatorship, a unique model of repression, where the repression takes place and the leader says, 'Oh, I had nothing to do with that. The people did that. I hold no authority.'"

Qadhafi, the serious-minded and devout son of nomads of the Sirte Desert, was by all accounts a bright and idealistic youngster and young man inspired by Egyptian leader Gamal Abdel Nasser. Nasser helped overthrow the Egyptian monarchy in 1952, when Qadhafi was about 10, and became Egypt's president in 1956, preaching Arab nationalism and opposition to foreign empires.

“Qadhafi represented a perspective of the Arab mind of the 1950s, more than anything else, and that originally came from Nasser,” El-Kikhia said. “He memorized Nasser’s speeches ... and Nasser’s speeches go on for four hours. So when you start memorizing Nasser’s speeches by heart, it shows some commitment to not only an ideology and a person, but to a way of life and of thinking. Unfortunately, Nasser died [in 1970] before he could actually tame Qadhafi, if you like. And it’s like a child who was not tamed, in a way, who was not taught.”

Although Qadhafi was an unknown sublieutenant when his Free Unionist Officers overthrew Libya’s monarchy in September 1969, he had been working toward that for years as a teenage student activist and then more quietly as a university student, military academy trainee and army officer. His new government fulfilled its promises to Libyans: Its leaders lived simply instead of feeding off corruption; it negotiated a better price for Libyan oil; it used the money to improve the lives of the people; and it ended the presence of British and American military bases in Libya when their leases expired.

“At the beginning, he was doing the right thing ... in terms of being a national hero,” said Mohamed A. El-Khawas, author of *Qadaffi: His Ideology in Theory and Practice*.

Just as Nasser had laid out a path that Qadhafi followed, Qadhafi tried to provide others with a blueprint for government and economic development as an alternative to Western democracy and Soviet communism: an Islam-inspired approach to direct democracy and socialism that he described in his Green Book and called the Third Universal Theory. He said the Libyan people should rule themselves, in their towns and workplaces, through local and municipal people’s congresses, and nationally through a General People’s Congress. But El-Kikhia and El-Khawas said that however sincere he was about his ideology, he quickly came to care more about power.

“What ideology does to you, whether you like it or not: It binds you,” El-Kikhia said. “And this is why he gutted it altogether. Even his own Green Book, he doesn’t follow it anymore — he never followed it in the first place, particularly after 1979, when he rejected the people’s committees. Forget the ideology: The ideology was gone.”

El-Khawas said he has come to doubt that Qadhafi was ever sincere about following his theories. “I think he was playing a game,” said El-Khawas, an Egyptian-born professor at the University of the District of Columbia. “What he created was a system that had a vacuum on the top, and he moved in and filled it without being accountable to someone overseeing to say, ‘Yes, you can do that. No, you cannot do that.’ So he became an authoritarian government, not even an autocratic government.”

Qadhafi also used Libya’s oil wealth to back liberation movements around the world in hopes that they would adopt his philosophy of government and look to him for leadership — “in return for a sizable foreign aid program,” El-Khawas said. None did, but those he has supported have included Liberian dictator Charles Taylor, now charged with crimes against humanity, and Foday Sankoh, whose Revolutionary United Front committed atrocities in Sierra Leone.

The real power structure in Qadhafi’s Libya came not through elections but through appointed revolutionary committees. “They string people up. They hang people. They do anything they want. They take over people’s homes,” El-Kikhia said. “They decide rules, regulations, according to what they perceive to be Qadhafi’s thoughts. And they’re not accountable to anyone but to him. So they’re free. But on that, he tells them ... ‘If I go down, you go down with me too, because you’re the one who did the dirty work.’”

Qadhafi presented the image of a man of the people, who when traveling to international summit meetings would bring two goats to give him milk and a tent in which to sleep. But he fell short of his dreams on the international stage: Efforts to join Libya in a union with other Arab countries foundered, as did his vision of a united Africa with him as “king of kings.”

Severe repression in Libya, the assassination of exiled Libyans who spoke against him and such acts of terrorism as the 1988 bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, made Qadhafi a pariah in the West. Great Britain broke off relations in 1984 after gunfire from the Libyan embassy during a protest killed a British policewoman and wounded 10 demonstrators.

Libya helped repair its reputation internationally through a number of steps, including the surrender of two suspects in the Lockerbie bombing for trial in Scotland, compensation payments for the victims’ families, a renunciation of weapons of mass destruction and cooperation in the fight against terrorism. El-Kikhia and El-Khawas said the moves were the idea of Qadhafi’s son Saif, who is considered Qadhafi’s chosen successor.

El-Khawas said Qadhafi’s response to the uprising against him shows that he has become delusional. “I think he’s out of his head. ... He’s acting irrationally, in fact, because to kill civilians and to tell them, ‘If you don’t love me, you deserve to die,’ that is incredible,” he said.

El-Kikhia said it’s clear, in any case, that Qadhafi has been thoroughly corrupted by the power he has controlled for more than 40 years. “This guy had no qualms about encircling the city of Benghazi and blowing it up — just blowing it up,” he said. “There was no god to tell him no. There was no conscience to tell him no. There was no one person to tell him no.”

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#### **4. Fact Sheet: U.S. Humanitarian Assistance in Libya Crisis (04-06-2011)**

##### **U.S. Government Humanitarian Assistance in Response to the Libya Crisis**

The U.S. Government has provided \$47 million to international and non-governmental organizations to meet the urgent humanitarian needs of people fleeing the violence in Libya. (Please see chart below for details.) We have deployed a team of disaster response experts to the region, and are working closely with host governments, the United Nations, NGOs and other international partners to assess and address urgent humanitarian needs in Libya and neighboring countries.

U.S. Government humanitarian assistance is also reaching beneficiaries inside Libya, providing needed medical supplies and staff, pre-positioning and distributing emergency relief commodities, and supporting medical training for mass casualty care and transport.

More than 439,000 people have fled from Libya since late February and more than 210,000 of these have been third-country nationals. According to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), roughly 6,000 people cross Libyan borders every day.

IOM and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) have provided direct transportation assistance to repatriate more than 90,000 people from Tunisia, Egypt, Libya, Algeria, and Niger. As of April 5, more than 13,000 people are awaiting evacuation assistance.

## Current Conditions

**Eastern Libya:** Since enforcement began of the no-fly zone under UN Security Council Resolution 1973, there is increased international aid organization movement into eastern Libya and a greater humanitarian presence in Benghazi in particular. Relief agencies present in eastern Libya report no urgent humanitarian needs, noting sufficient medical supplies and staff in Benghazi and other eastern areas, and that port and airport facilities in Benghazi are operational.

**Western Libya:** Humanitarian access to western Libya is effectively prevented by the Qadhafi regime, and the overall security situation continues to limit humanitarian access and the ability of humanitarian organizations to assess and respond to needs. The U.S. government is monitoring the humanitarian situation throughout Libya and is working with international organizations and NGO partners where they are able to operate. There are reports of shortages, especially in areas affected by ongoing conflict.

## The Borders

**Tunisia:** On April 4, fewer than 1,000 third-country nationals in need of evacuation assistance crossed the border into Tunisia. Approximately 11,500 people remain in the camps. The numbers of migrants in the transit camps near the border has increased. This increase reflects IOM's need for more funding to resume their earlier frequency of flights.

**Egypt:** Approximately 2,900 people crossed into Egypt from Libya on April 4. This included close to 1,500 Libyans. NGOs working at the border noted that some men were transporting their wives and children to Egypt and then returning to Libya. The number of people currently at the border crossing at Salloum has risen to roughly 4,500 people. Humanitarian aid organizations at the Salloum crossing report concerns that, with increasing numbers of people at that location, current shelter arrangements are not adequate.

**Other borders:** More than 23,000 people have crossed to Niger, including more than 21,000 Nigerien nationals and the remainder other third country nationals. More than 5,000 people have crossed into Chad and 2,800 into Sudan. More than 10,000 people have crossed into Algeria.

**Europe:** More than 18,000 migrants, most of these Tunisians but also many sub-Saharan Africans, have landed on the Italian island of Lampedusa since the uprising in Tunisia in January. More than 800 people, primarily sub-Saharan Africans, fleeing Libya have arrived by boat in Malta.

The United States is deeply concerned about the safety of civilians caught up in this conflict, and urges all sides to facilitate the provision of humanitarian relief.

We continue to call upon Libyan authorities to provide humanitarian actors with full access and ensure the rapid and unimpeded passage of humanitarian assistance.

## Funding for U.S. Humanitarian Assistance for People Affected by the Crisis in Libya

| Organization  | Purpose   | Amount       |
|---|---|--------------|
| <b>International Organization for Migration (IOM)</b> | Evacuation and repatriation programs for third-country nationals. | \$13,000,000 |



|  |  |              |
|--|--|--------------|
| <b>World Food Program (WFP)</b>                              | Emergency food operations to respond to immediate food requirements of those who have fled Libya into Tunisia and Egypt, and to pre-position food to assist those who are most vulnerable to a deterioration of humanitarian conditions within Libya.  | \$10,000,000 |
| <b>International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)</b>       | Medical and surgical care, water and sanitation facilities, etc. in the region.  | \$7,000,000  |
| <b>United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)</b> | Management of transit centers in Tunisia; and basic services to migrants in Egypt.   | \$7,000,000  |
| <b>Key international and non-governmental organizations</b>  | Support for other international and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) working to meet humanitarian needs, including funding for NGOs operating inside Libya to build their capacity and strengthen the provision of humanitarian assistance; and provision of emergency relief commodities (emergency health kits, trauma kits, blankets, plastic sheeting, water containers). | \$10,000,000 |
|  | TOTAL  | \$47,000,000 |

## **5. U.S. Prepositioning Aid Supplies for Besieged Libyan Areas (04-01-2011)**

By Stephen Kaufman  
Staff Writer

Washington — The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) says that adequate supplies of food, water and medicine are being delivered to people in eastern areas of Libya, but international relief organizations are not able to ascertain the situation in areas still under siege by forces loyal to Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi.

USAID Deputy Assistant Administrator Mark Ward told reporters in Washington April 1 that USAID and others in the international community are prepositioning humanitarian supplies so that when they are able to gain access to besieged areas, such as the city of Misrata, they will be able to rapidly assess the needs and provide assistance.

“The humanitarian assistance challenge is always formidable. It is particularly difficult in Libya because of the security situation,” Ward said. Within Libya, the situation varies, he said.

In eastern areas not under siege, “the Libyan people are coping very well, given the situation they face,” with sufficient levels of humanitarian supplies and support, he said.

“Sadly, that is not the case in cities further to the west, where the pro-Qadhafi forces have cut off or are bombarding a city, such as Misrata,” he said.

Ward said USAID is concerned about those areas and is anticipating massive civilian casualties, but “we don’t have good visibility yet about what the situation is inside.” USAID has been receiving anecdotal reports from people leaving those areas, he said, and it has been difficult to get anything into those areas because of the security situation.

Until personnel and supplies can safely enter those areas, “it will be impossible for us or for any other part of the international community to get in and assess the situation and provide assistance,” he said.

“I can assure you that the international community — the United States, Turkey, Great Britain, the United Nations — we are all as close as we can safely be right now and ready to help when the situation stabilizes from a security point of view,” Ward said.

In the meantime, USAID is prepositioning food and medical supplies “so that when we get access to those cities ... we will have them there; they will be ready to go and move in quickly,” he said. The agency similarly anticipated gaining access to Ajdabiya after pro-Qadhafi forces left the area, and as a result it was able to quickly respond to the city’s medical needs.

“The medical situation in Ajdabiya right now is quite stable as a result. I think, in large part, that the international community had prepositioned supplies there and medical personnel to go in and help,” Ward said.

According to a March 31 USAID fact sheet, the United States so far has provided \$47 million in humanitarian assistance to Libya. The total includes emergency supplies such as blankets, plastic sheeting, water containers, health and trauma kits, and food assistance. According to the fact sheet, \$27 million of the U.S. assistance has come from the State Department’s Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration to assist Libyans and foreign nationals who fled the country for camps in Tunisia and Egypt. In addition, U.S. military aircraft have transported 1,158 Egyptians from Tunisia to Egypt in an operation that cost nearly \$1.1 million.

The fact sheet also said USAID has funded the training of 32 medical volunteers in Tobruk through the World Health Organization to perform first aid and transport injured individuals. The program aims to “improve the ability of hospital staff and volunteers to stabilize and evacuate severe cases from overstretched hospitals in eastern Libya to facilities in Egypt, freeing emergency room space, beds, and hospital staff in conflict-affected areas to receive and treat new arrivals,” the fact sheet said.

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